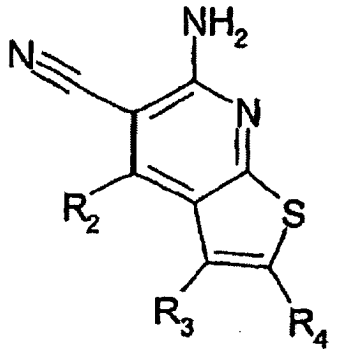
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A method of ~~treatment of diseases or conditions~~ treating a cancer mediated by excessive or inappropriate HSP90 activity in mammals which method comprises administering to the mammal an amount of a compound ~~as defined in claim 1~~ of formula (I), or a salt, N-oxide thereof:



(I)

wherein

R_2 is a group of formula (IA):

$$-(Ar^1)_m-(Alk^1)_p-(Z)_r-(Alk^2)_s-Q \qquad (IA)$$

wherein in any compatible combination

Ar^1 is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl radical,

Alk^1 and Alk^2 are optionally substituted divalent C_1-C_3 alkylene or C_2-C_3 alkenylene radicals,

m, p, r and s are independently 0 or 1,

Z is -O-, -S-, -(C=O)-, -(C=S)- SO_2-, -C(=O)O-, -C(=O)NR^A- , -C(=S)NR^A-, -SO_2NR^A-, -$NR^AC(=O)$-, -NR^ASO_2- or -NR^A-

wherein R^A is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, and

Q is hydrogen or an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical;

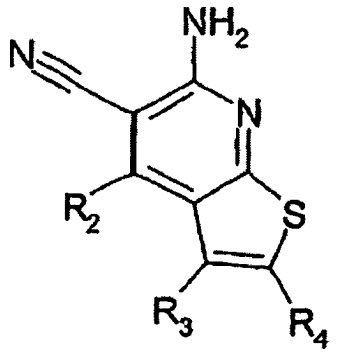
R_3 is hydrogen, an optional substituent, or an optionally substituted (C_1C_6)alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl radical; and

R_4 is a carboxamide or sulfonamide group,

wherein the optional substituent is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxy C_1-C_6 alkyl, mercapto, mercapto C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, nitrile (-CN), oxo, phenyl, -COOH, $COOR^C$,- COR^C, -SO_2R^C, -$CONH_2$, -SO_2NH_2, -$CONHR^C$, -SO_2NHR^C, -$CONR^CR^D$, -$SO_2NR^CR^D$, - NH_2, -NHR^C, -NR^CR^D, -$OCONH_2$, -$OCONHR^C$, -$OCONR^CR^D$, -$NHCOR^C$, - $NHCOOR^C$, - NHR^DCOOR^C, -$NHSO_2OR^C$, - $NR^DSO_2OR^C$, -$NHCONH_2$, - NR^CCONH_2, -$NHCONHR^D$, - NR^C $CONHR^D$, -$NHCONHR^CR^D$, and -$NR^CCONR^CR^D$, wherein R^C and R^D are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl groups, effective to inhibit said HSP90 activity.

13-14. (canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical or veterinary composition comprising a compound of formula (I) ~~as specified in, claim 1~~, or a salt, N-oxide thereof:



(I)

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wherein

R_2 is a group of formula (IA):

$$-(Ar^1)_m-(Alk^1)_p-(Z)_t-(Alk^2)_s-Q \qquad (IA)$$

wherein in any compatible combination

Ar^1 is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl radical,

Alk^1 and Alk^2 are optionally substituted divalent C_1-C_3 alkylene or C_2-C_3 alkenylene radicals,

m, p, r and s are independently 0 or 1,

Z is -O-, -S-, -(C=O)-, -(C=S)- SO_2-, -C(=O)O-, -C(=O)NR^A- , -C(=S)NR^A-, -SO_2NR^A-, -$NR^AC(=O)$-, -NR^ASO_2- or -NR^A-

wherein R^A is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl, and

Q is hydrogen or an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical;

R_3 is hydrogen, an optional substituent, or an optionally substituted (C_1C_6)alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl radical; and

R_4 is a carboxamide or sulfonamide group,

wherein the optional substituent is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxy C_1-C_6 alkyl, mercapto, mercapto C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, nitrile (-CN), oxo, phenyl, -COOH, $COOR^C$,- COR^C, -SO_2R^C, -$CONH_2$, -SO_2NH_2, -$CONHR^C$, -SO_2NHR^C, -$CONR^CR^D$, -$SO_2NR^CR^D$, - NH_2, -NHR^C, -NR^CR^D, -$OCONH_2$, -$OCONHR^C$, -$OCONR^CR^D$, -$NHCOR^C$, - $NHCOOR^C$, - NHR^DCOOR^C, -$NHSO_2OR^C$, - $NR^DSO_2OR^C$, -$NHCONH_2$, - NR^CCONH_2, -$NHCONHR^D$, - NR^C $CONHR^D$, -$NHCONHR^CR^D$, and -$NR^CCONR^CR^D$, wherein R^C and R^D are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl groups, in an amount effective to inhibit said HSP90 activity together with a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable carrier.

16.-20. (canceled)

21. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein m is 1, each of p, r and s is 0, and Q is hydrogen.

22. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein R_2 is optionally substituted phenyl, 2- or 3-thienyl, 2- or 3-furanyl, or 2-, 3- or 4-pyridinyl,

wherein the optional substituent is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxy C_1-C_6 alkyl, mercapto, mercapto C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, nitrile (-CN), oxo, phenyl, -COOH, $COOR^C$,-COR^C, -SO_2R^C, -$CONH_2$, -SO_2NH_2, -$CONHR^C$, -SO_2NHR^C, -$CONR^CR^D$, -$SO_2NR^CR^D$, - NH_2, - NHR^C, - NR^CR^D, -$OCONH_2$, -OCO NHR^C, -$OCONR^CR^D$, -$NHCOR^C$, - $NHCOOR^C$, - NHR^DCOOR^C, - $NHSO_2OR^C$, - $NR^DSO_2OR^C$, -$NHCONH_2$, - NR^CCONH_2, -$NHCONHR^D$, - NR^C $CONHR^D$, -$NHCONHR^CR^D$, and -$NR^CCONR^CR^D$, wherein R^C and R^D are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl groups.

23. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein R_2 is phenyl, optionally substituted by methyl, ethyl, n- or isopropyl, methoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, chloro, or bromo,

wherein the optional substituent is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxy C_1-C_6 alkyl, mercapto, mercapto C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, nitrile (-CN), oxo, phenyl, -COOH, $COOR^C$,-COR^C, -SO_2R^C, -$CONH_2$, -SO_2NH_2, -$CONHR^C$, -SO_2NHR^C, -$CONR^CR^D$, -$SO_2NR^CR^D$, - NH_2, - NHR^C, - NR^CR^D, -$OCONH_2$, -OCO NHR^C, -$OCONR^CR^D$, -$NHCOR^C$, -$NHCOOR^C$, - NHR^DCOOR^C, - $NHSO_2OR^C$, -$NR^DSO_2OR^C$, -$NHCONH_2$, -NR^CCONH_2, -$NHCONHR^D$, -NR^C $CONHR^D$, -$NHCONHR^CR^D$, and -$NR^CCONR^CR^D$, wherein R^C and R^D are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl groups.

24. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the optional substituent is in the 4-position of the phenyl ring.

25. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein m is 1, and p, r and s are 0, and Q is an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring,

wherein the optional substituent is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxy C_1-C_6 alkyl, mercapto, mercapto C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, nitrile (-CN), oxo, phenyl, -COOH, $COOR^C$,-COR^C, -SO_2R^C, -$CONH_2$, -SO_2NH_2, -$CONHR^C$, -SO_2NHR^C, -$CONR^CR^D$, -$SO_2NR^CR^D$, -NH_2, -NHR^C, -NR^CR^D, -$OCONH_2$, -OCO NHR^C, -$OCONR^CR^D$, -$NHCOR^C$, -$NHCOOR^C$, -

NHR^DCOOR^C, $-NHSO_2OR^C$, $-NR^DSO_2OR^C$, $-NHCONH_2$, $-NR^CCONH_2$, $-NHCONHR^D$, $-NR^C$ $CONHR^D$, $-NHCONHR^CR^D$, and $-NR^CCONR^CR^D$, wherein R^C and R^D are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl groups.

26. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein Ar^1 is a phenyl or pyridyl ring.

27. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein R_3 is amino (NH_2).

28. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein R_4 is a carboxamide group of formula – $CONR^B(Alk)_nR^A$ wherein

Alk is a divalent alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene radical, and the Alk radical may be optionally substituted,

n is 0 or 1,

R^B is hydrogen or a C_1-C_6 alkyl or C_2-C_6 alkenyl group,

R^A is hydroxy or optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclyl, any of which heterocyclic rings may be substituted; or

R^A and R^B taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form an N-heterocyclic ring which may optionally contain one or more additional hetero atoms selected from O, S and N, and which may optionally be substituted on one or more ring C or N atoms;

wherein the optional substituent is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxy C_1-C_6 alkyl, mercapto, mercapto C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, nitrile (-CN), oxo, phenyl, -COOH, $COOR^C$,- COR^C, $-SO_2R^C$, $-CONH_2$, $-SO_2NH_2$, $-CONHR^C$, $-SO_2NHR^C$, -

$CONR^CR^D$, $-SO_2NR^CR^D$, $-NH_2$, $-NHR^C$, $-NR^CR^D$, $-OCONH_2$, $-OCO\ NHR^C$, $-OCONR^CR^D$, $-NHCOR^C$, $-NHCOOR^C$, $-NHR^DCOOR^C$, $-NHSO_2OR^C$, $-NR^DSO_2OR^C$, $-NHCONH_2$, $-NR^CCONH_2$, $-NHCONHR^D$, $-NR^C\ CONHR^D$, $-NHCONHR^CR^D$, and $-NR^CCONR^CR^D$, wherein R^C and R^D are independently C_1-C_6 alkyl groups.